Scheme of California University to Boost the Export

64. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the California university has devised any unique scheme to boost the exports for Asian countries, like India, to the United States;

(b) whether Government have made any study of this scheme; and

(c) if so, what is its response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI. P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) The California State University at Hayward had launched two programmes encompassing trade and scientific cooperation between Asia and the United States. The first programme related to conducting market surveys on select Indian and Chinese products for the US market and the second a study in Manipal. These programmes are a part of the routine curriculum at the Business School at California State University and do not represent any attempt on the part of the University to help Asian countries in expanding their trade with the US.

खाद्यान्नों का निर्यात

65. **श्री अनन्त राम जायसवाल:**
श्री सन्तोष बागड़ोदिया:
श्री लक्खीराम अग्रवाल:
श्री सैयद सिब्ते रजी:

क्या **वाणिज्य** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) जून 1991 से 15 फरवरी, 1992 तक किन-किन खाद्यान्नों का कितनी-कितनी मात्रा में निर्यात किया गया;

(ख) क्या सरकार ने गेहूं का आयात करने का भी कोई निर्णय लिया है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसकी मात्रा कितनी है और ऐसा निर्णय कब लिया गया था तथा क्या उक्त निर्णय के अनुसरण में कोई लेन-देन भी किया गया है;

(घ) गेहूं के आयात-निर्यात के बारे में सरकार की क्या नीति है और क्या गेहूं का वर्तमान अयात केवल एक बार ही किया जायेगा;

(ङ) किन-किन देशों के साथ ऐसा सौदा किया गया है और देश-वार गेहूं का मूल्य कितना-कितना है; और

(च) भारत में ढुलाई-प्रभार सहित आयातित गेहूं का मूल्य कितना होगा?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री सलमान खुर्शीद): (क) दिनांक 1 जून, 1991 से 15 फरवरी, 1992 तक की अवधि के दौरान 221.45 लाख रु० मूल्य का 1,33,525 मी० टन बासमती चावल 183.51 लाख रु० मूल्य का 3,30,961 मी० टन गैर-बासमती चावल और 104.57 लाख रु० मूल्य का 3,58,662 मी० टन गेहूं निर्यात किया गया।

(ख) और (ग) सरकार ने हाल ही में दस लाख मी० टन गेहूं का आयात करने का निर्णय लिया है और इस आयात के बारे में वार्ताएं चल रही हैं।

(घ) गेहूं का आयात और निर्यात करने का निर्णय उत्पादन, आन्तरिक उपलब्धता, फसल संभाव्यता, स्टाक-स्थिति और सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली की जरूरतों, यथोचित बफर स्टाक बनाने की आवश्यकता, विदेशी मुद्रा संसाधनों, स्थानीय एवं अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय बाजार में कीमत के रुख आदि बातों को ध्यान में रखते हुए लिया जाता है।

(ङ) और (च) आयात संबंधी वार्ताएं अब भी जारी हैं।

Closure of offices of S.T.C. and M.M.T.C. Abroad

66. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the places alongwith the names of the countries where offices of STC and MMTC are located;

(b) what is the total staff strength of these offices and how much annual expenditure is being incurred thereon;

(c) what is the purpose for which these offices have been opened;

(d) whether Government propose to close these offices;

(e) if so, by when; and

(f) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The

places and the names of the countries where offices of STC and MMTC are located are given below:

STC		MMTC	
Place	*Country*	*Place*	*Country*
New York	U.S.A.	Tokyo	Japan
London	U.K.	Seoul	South Korea
Frankfurt	Germany	Amman	Jordon
Moscow	Russia	Bucharest	Romania
Harare	Zimbabawe		
Hong Kong	Hong Kong		
Singapore	Singapore		
Melbourne	Australia		
Dubai	UAE		

(b) The persent staff strength including officers of these offices as well as expenditure incurred thereon for the year 1990-91 as under:-

	STC	MMTC
Strength	24	08
Expenditure for 1990-91	Rs. 490.89 lakhs	Rs. 134.75 lakhs

(c) The foreign offices of STC and MMTC have been opened for generation of exports, providing market intelligence and rendering of assistance to the respective Corporate Office for implementation of export and import contracts.

(d) to (f) There is no such proposal under consideration.

Decline in export earning in Dollar terms

67. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:
SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a decline in the country's export earnings in dollar terms during the post-devaluation period;

(b) whether the decline is attributable to devaluation of Indian rupee in terms of dollar;

(c) if so, in what respect and to what extent;

(d) if not, what are the other factors responsible for such decline; and

(e) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to increase the export earnings in dollar terms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) The trade data is compiled on financial year basis. According to the current estimates, India's exports to the General Currency Area (GCA) countries increased from US $ 10636 million during April-December 1990 to US $ 11310 million during April-December 1991 thereby registering an increase of 6.34%.

India's exports to the Rupee Payment Area (RPA) countries declined by 46.53% from US $ 2494 million during April-December 1990 to US $ 1333 million during April-December 1991.

Government are of the view that exports to GCA countries and RPA countries should be disaggregated and viewed separately. The correct conclusion would, therefore, be that exports to GCA countries showed a modest increase of about 6% in dollar terms while exports to IPA countries showed a decline of about 46% in dollar terms.

The reasons for the decline in exports to RPA countries are mainly external and include the political changes that have taken place in the erstwhile Soviet Union.

Other factors which have affected export growth include a slow-down in the world economy, recession in major developed countries, unavoidable import compression and high rate of export credit.

(e) The Government introduced a package of trade policy reforms aimed at strengthening of export incentives, eliminating substantial volume of import licensing and optimal import compression, REP licences have been replaced by a new instrument named Eximscrips. These will be the means of obtaining access to certain categories of imports of raw materials, components and spares. The system of advance licensing as an instrument of export promotion has also been strengthened. Government has decided to allow established exporters to open foreign currency accounts in approved banks and allow exporters to raise external credits, pay for export related import from such accounts, and credit export proceeds to such accounts. Besides, Government have